

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SANAA 02463 310509Z

12

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 IGA-02 ACDA-19

MC-02 TRSE-00 OMB-01 DRC-01 (ISO) W

----- 123982

R 301020Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANAA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3142

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

USINT CAIRO

S E C R E T SANAA 2463

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, JO, YE, TC, EG, XX

SUBJ: CONVERSATION WITH JORDANIAN AMBASSADOR

DEPT PASS USCINCEUR

SECDEF FOR ISA

1. SUMMARY. DESPITE DISRUPTION CAUSED BY MIDDLE EAST WAR, YEMEN WILL RECEIVE SOME RUSSIAN MILITARY EQUIPMENT FROM EGYPT FINANCED BY SAUDI ARABIA. HIGH LEVEL YAR MILITARY MISSION WILL VISIT JORDAN IN MID-JANUARY. JORDANIAN CROWN PRINCE HASSAN LIKELY VISIT YEMEN IN MARCH. EGYPTIANS CONTINUE CLAIM REVERSES IN RECENT WAR WERE CAUSED BY U.S. INTERVENTION. END SUMMARY.

2. IN CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR DECEMBER 29 JORDANIAN AMBASSADOR (GENERAL) HAIDAR MUSTAFA CONFIRMED INFORMATION WE HAD RECEIVED THAT DESPITE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 SANAA 02463 310509Z

DISRUPTION OF RECENT MIDDLE EAST WAR, SAUDI

ARABIA AND EGYPT HAVE ARRANGED PROCEED WITH DELIVERY TO YEMEN OF LIMITED QUANTITY OF RUSSIAN EQUIPMENT FROM EGYPT FINANCED BY SAG. THIS INFO CONVEYED BY LETTER FROM SAG MOD PRINCE SULTAN TO CHIEF-OF-STAFF MASWARI. UNDERSTANDABLY, INITIAL DELIVERY WILL FALL FAR SHORT OF ORIGINAL 90 MILLION DOLLAR PACKAGE. MASWARI INFORMED AMBASSADOR MUSTAFA THAT SIX MIG 17'S, "ONE SQUADRON" SUKHOI FIGHTER BOMBERS AND FOUR RADAR UNITS WOULD BE PRINCIPLE ITEMS DELIVERED SOMETIME IN COMING MONTH. SULTAN'S LETTER EVIDENTLY HOLDS OPEN PROSPECT OF FURTHER DELIVERIES THEREAFTER. JORANIAN AMBASSADOR SEEKING ACTUAL TEXT.

3. AMBASSADOR MUSTAFA SAID PLANS FOR VISIT TO JORDAN BY HIGH-LEVEL YEMENI MILITARY MISSION NOW FIRM. YEMENI GROUP HEADED BY CHIEF-OF-STAFF COL. HUSSAIN MASWARI AND COMPRISING FOURTEEN OFFICERS INCLUDING COMMANDERS OF YARG ARMOUR, AIR FORCE, ENGINEERS, TRAINING, SIGNALS, ETC. WILL PROCEED AMMAN IN MID-JANUARY FOR STAY OF AT LEAST ONE WEEK. VISIT IS EXPECTED PRODUCE FINAL UNDERSTANDING ON JUST WHAT YEMEN WANTS IN WAY OF MILITARY TRAINING FROM JORDAN. ACCORDING MUSTAFA, YEMENIS HAVE ALREADY ASKED FOR FORTY OFFICERS AND NCO'S TO CARRY OUT TRAINING IN YEMEN OVER AND ABOVE GOJ OFFER CITED AMMAN 5189 AND 5149 AND SANAA 2143. MUSTAFA STATES HE HAS BEEN INFORMED BY PRESIDENT IRYANI AND YEMENI MILITARY COMMANDERS THAT YARG NOW LOOKING TO JORDAN AS PRIMARY SOURCE OF MILITARY TRAINING ASSISTANCE. SINCE FUNDING OF BULK OF JORDANIAN PROGRAMS WILL HAVE TO BE OBTAINED FROM SOMEWHERE ELSE, MASWARI CURRENTLY PLANS VISIT SAUDI ARABIA AT CONSLUSION OF JORDAN TRIP AND CONCURRENTLY SEND ANOTHER SENIOR OFFICER TO ABU DHABI.

4. AMBASSADOR MUSTAFA INTENDS RETURN AMMAN FOR ID AL-ADHA TO PREPARE FOR MASWARI VISIT.

5. MUSTAFA SAYS CROWN PRINCE HASSAN HAS INDICATED WILLINGNESS VISIT YEMEN, YEMENIS HAVE SAID THEY
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 SANAA 02463 310509Z

WOULD LIKE TO HAVE HIM, AND ALL THAT REMAINS TO BE DECIDED IS TIMING. MARCH SEEMS MOST LIKELY.

6. MUSTAFA TOLD US WITH RELISH OF CONVERSATION WHICH TO*K PLACE DECEMBER 20 AT LUNCH GIVEN BY YARG FOR VISITING PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF PRESIDENT SADAT, HASAN SABRI AL-KHULI. AL-KHULI WAS ASKED HOW EGYPT HAD LET ISRAELI TROOPS PENETRATE WEST OF

CANAL. AL-KHULI HAD REPLIED THAT THIS WAS RESULT OF AMERICAN INVOLVEMENT IN WAR. AMERICAN RECONNAISSANCE PLANES HAD IDENTIFIED WEAK POINT IN EGYPTIAN LINES. PENTAGON HAD THEN DEVELOPED FOR THE ISRAELIS PLANS TO PIERCE THIS WEAK POINT. BEFORE FIRST WAVE OF ISRALI AIRCRAFT SENT TO SOFTEN EGYPTIAN POSITION FOR ARMORED THRUST, AMERICANS HAD THEMSELVES ENTERED THE WAR WITH A NEW SECRET WEAPON. THIS WEAPON, WHETHER BASED ON LASER OR SOME OTHER PRINCIPLE, HAD BEEN EMPLOYED TO PARALYZE ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT IN 16 STRATEGIC SAM-6 BATTERIES. AT ANOTHER CRUCIAL MOMENT ON SYRIAN FRONT, THIS SAME WEAPON HAD BEEN USED BY U.S. TO IMMOBILIZE TWO BRIGADES OF SYRIAN TANKS. AL-KHULI SAID THAT AS FORMER OFFICER HE VOUCHED FOR FACT ISRAELIS WOULD NEVER HAVE MADE GAINS THEY DID WITHOUT AMERICAN USE OF THIS SECRET WEAPON. ACCORDING AMBASSADOR MUSTAFA, HE TOOK AL-KHULI ASIDE AFTER LUNCH AND TOLD HIM NOT TO SPREAD THIS SORT OF RUBBISH IN ANY OTHER ARAB CAPITAL. NOBODY BELIEVED HIM AND HE WAS DOING EGYPT'S CAUSE NO GOOD. CRAWFORD

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED USCINCEUR.

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